REMARKS

The above amendment is made in response to the Office Action mailed January 20, 2004. Claims 1-22 are pending in the present application and stand rejected. Claims 1, 8 and 16 have been amended. Claims 7 and 22 have been cancelled. The Examiner's reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the above amendment and the following remarks.

Claims 1-4, 6 and 8-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kawagishi et al. (JP 07200481 A) (hereinafter "Kawagishi"), in view of Barritz (EP 0 854 421 A1) (hereinafter "Barritz"), and further in view of Peterson (U.S. Patent No. 6,349,289) (hereinafter "Peterson"). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Office Action argues, *inter alia*, that "Peterson discloses a system for monitoring the activity of at least one of the individual and the CA computer, *until the storage device is de-coupled from the CA computer*, generating a bill based on said monitoring...," citing the Peterson Abstract in combination with col. 3, line 45 to col. 4, line 12 of Peterson. The recited portions of Peterson teach using a host computer to access a secure, remote communication server. (Peterson, Abstract). The host computer is authenticated by transmitting a user name and time-variable pass code (consisting of a personal ID number and a security token) to a service bureau, which is in communication with the communication server. (Peterson, col. 2, lines 10-32 and col. 3, lines 42-46). The Office Action apparently argues that the "secure ID card" of Peterson teaches or suggests the "storage device," as claimed in claims 1, 11, and 16. Applicants respectfully disagree.

The "secure ID card" of Peterson is generally a simple output device that *displays* the time-variable pass code generated using an algorithm located within the output device.

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(Peterson, col. 3, lines 46-60). Peterson does not teach or suggest any other method of transmitting the pass code. Thus, a user is required to enter the time-variable pass code displayed by the secure ID card *manually* into the host computer.

Peterson does not teach or suggest a "storage device," as the "secure ID card" does not have storage capabilities. Further, Peterson does not teach or suggest "de-coupled from the CA computer," as the secure ID card is not coupled to the host computer. Peterson begins the logging period (*i.e.*, creates the starting time stamp) only after a user manually enters an authenticated user name and pass code. (Peterson, col. 3, lines 34-36). Thus, Peterson does not teach or suggest "monitoring the activity of at least one of the individual and the CA computer, until the storage device is de-coupled from the CA computer" and "generating a bill based on said monitoring," as claimed in claims 1, 11 and 16.

Accordingly, amended claims 1, 11, and 16 are believed to be patentably distinguishable and nonobvious in view of Kawagishi, Barritz and Peterson. Dependent claims 2-6, 8-10, 12-15 and 17-21 are believed to be allowable for at least the reasons given for claims 1, 11, and 16. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-6 and 8-21 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

Notwithstanding the above, claims 1, 11 and 16 are allowable for the following additional reasons.

Claim 1 has been amended to include "wherein the *access code...indicates whether the individual is authorized to temporarily use any of the plurality of application programs associated with the CA computer, and which of the plurality of application programs such authorization is provided thereto.*" The Office Action cites the Kawagishi Abstract as

disclosing the above-recited limitations of amended claim 1. Applicants respectfully disagree. The Kawagishi Abstract teaches using an IC card, which stores an access code to the host computer, to control access the host computer. The Kawagishi Abstract does not provide any additional teachings of the access code itself. Clearly, the Kawagishi Abstract does not teach or suggest "wherein the access code...indicates whether the individual is authorized to temporarily use any of the plurality of application programs associated with the CA computer, and which of the plurality of application programs such authorization is provided thereto," as claimed in amended claim 1.

It is respectfully submitted that the Office Action incorrectly addresses claims 1 and 11 together, without addressing the express limitations claimed in claim 11 that are not present in claim 1. Such an oversight is contrary to the requirement of the MPEP that the Examiner address each and every limitation of the claims.

In particular, the Office Action has not addressed "*generating a user account* by coupling to the CA computer a portable storage device available to an individual, and *writing an access code to storage device*," as claimed in claim 11. Nonetheless, Applicants respectfully submit that combination of Kawagishi, Barritz and Peterson does not teach or suggest the above-recited limitations of claim 11.
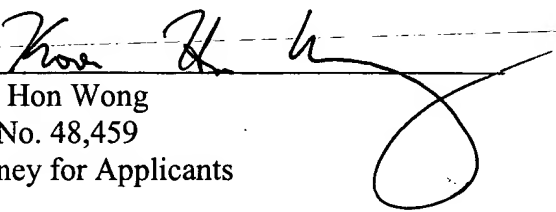
Claim 16 has been amended to include "wherein the portable storage device further *stores therein application programs associated with the individual*, and said step of providing temporary access to the CA computer further comprises the step *providing temporary access to the application programs stored in the portable storage device for execution by the CA computer*." The Office Action cites the Kawagishi Abstract as disclosing the above-recited limitations. Applicants respectfully disagree.

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As previously stated, the <u>Kawagishi</u> Abstract teaches using an IC card, which stores an access code to the host computer, to control access the host computer. The <u>Kawagishi</u> Abstract does not teach or suggest application programs being stored in the portable storage device. As such, the <u>Kawagishi</u> Abstract does not teach or suggest using the portable storage device to provide temporary access to the application programs stored in the portable storage device for execution by the CA computer. Thus, the <u>Kawagishi</u> Abstract does not teach or suggest "wherein the portable storage device further stores therein application programs associated with the individual, and said step of providing temporary access to the CA computer further comprises the step providing temporary access to the application programs stored in the portable storage device for execution by the CA computer," as claimed in amended claim 16.

In view of the foregoing remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all the claims now pending in the application are in condition for allowance. Early and favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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